Operation Iraqi Freedom II

"Telling the First Team's Story"

Thursday, July 22, 2004

# ING, Iraqi Police Team Up for Cordon-and-Search

By Cpl. Bill Putnam 122nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq- The Iraqi National Guard and Iraqi Police, two of the four Iraq Security Forces, marked a major milestone together early July 18.

For the first time, the ING and IP worked together on a large-scale operation to search for insurgents who attacked an IP traffic control point July 15. The attack killed one IP officer and wounded two others, said Capt. Dan Gelderman, the ING advisor for the 1st Cavalry Division's 5th Brigade Combat Team.

About 90 ING soldiers from the 304th Battalion cordoned off a large area of an Al Rashid neighborhood while almost 300 IP officers searched for the insurgents.

"The mission was put together to show the neighborhood's residents the IP are still here and working," Gelderman said.

The ING ran several temporary traffic control points along a major road in the area



By Cpl. Bill Putnam, 122nd MPAD

# Residents of an Al Rashid neighborhood watch Iraqi Police leave the search area after the first large-scale joint mission with the Iraqi National Guard July 18.

to make sure the neighborhood search went undisturbed while the IP searched the homes. Several illegal weapons were seized by the IP during the operation.

While they've worked

together in the past, this was the first time they have worked together in a large operation, Gelderman said.

"I believe today's mission was an extremely important victory in the push to make (Iraqi Security Forces) a legitimate team," Gelderman said.

The other two services of the ISF are the Facility Protection Service and the Iraqi Intervention Force.

## Need Convoy Assistance? Just Call the 1CD's ROC

By Spc. Michelle Newbold 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs

CAMP VICTORY
NORTH- "We keep Soldiers
alive," Maj. Danny Sample
said. He was referring to his
unit, the 1st Cavalry Division
Rear Operations Cell, or the
ROC. The ROC is important to
any 1st Cavalry Division

Soldier that leaves their forward operating base in convoys.

The ROC is a National Guard unit based out of Tupelo, Miss., attached to the Headquarters Company, 1st Cavalry Division. The ROC is comprised of 21 individuals from Mississippi, Tennessee and Alabama. Between the 21

of them, there are 361 years of Army experience, be it active duty or National Guard. The Soldiers have served in many conflicts over the years, including Vietnam, Panama and Operation Desert Storm.

The ROC is an operations center for logistics and sustainment.

"We spend the day receiv-

ing information on convoy movements that come through 1st Cavalry Division's boundaries," Sample said.

If any multi-national force convoy needs assistance, the ROC is the unit that provides it. Whether it is medical assistance, a quick reaction force, or just specifics on what routes

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# Checkpoints, Cell Phones, and Army Values

#### Distinguishing Friend from Foe Can Be Difficult; Professionalism Key

By Sgt. 1st Class Warner Stadler Civil Military Operations Liaison Officer

If you treat an Iraqi with respect, he will give you his shirt. But - if you dishonor him or harm his brother or family, he will not rest until he has taken revenge, even if it takes one hundred years.

— Iraqi Proverb

In the last issue I wrote that every Soldier is an ambassador. Sadly, although there are many Soldiers who are doing an outstanding job representing our great country, there are still some who don't seem to understand the importance of showing respect and dignity to the Iraqi

people or their customs and traditions. There is good reason that one of the seven army values is respect. That is not only respect for self, but also respect for others.

Consider the following incident.

A cell phone rings at diviheadquarters. sion Assistant Chief of Staff for Civil Military Operations (G5) Hello, this answers.



Lieutenant Colonel Welch."

dismale voice with a

strong Middle Eastern accent comes on the other end. "Colonel Welch - this is Mohammed Ali-Ali (Not his real name). I'm on my way to pick up my brother and I have been stopped at the checkpoint. The Soldiers will not let me or my security detail through ..."

Suddenly another voice is heard. "G\*#!\*\$#! Mot\*#!\*!#... gimme that F!#\*#!.... phone." You are not allowed to use this at this checkpoint!" Then the phone went dead, apparently snatched from the Iraqi's hand.

Now, I understand the policy of restricting the use of cell phones at a checkpoint to prevent the intentional or accidental detonation of a car bomb (VBIED) at a checkpoint. However, the issue I want you to consider is not the policy restricting the use of the phone, but the manner in which the Soldier enforced the policy.

The way in which many of our checkpoints are designed,

despite signs that are posted to inform people about the restriction on cell phone usage, many people feel the need to use their cell phones to contact and inform people of their status when stuck in line or restricted from going through. This need to use the cell phone is further enhanced by the apparent lack of other means of communication for the traveler at the checkpoint.

There is no dispute that the Soldier had every right to enforce the policy and restrict the use of the cell phone. However, could he have had the same result, but with a better effect, by treating the man with a firm but polite and professional approach? Did he do more to damage our relations with the Iraqi people by treating the man with such disrespect? Would it have been just as easy and taken just the same amount of time to respond with, "I'm sorry, Sir, for your safety we do not allow cell phones to be used at our check point. May we help you contact someone?"

But there is more to this story...

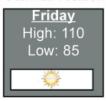
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By Pfc. Al Barrus, 122nd MPAD

Capt. Christopher Wehri (right) and Capt. Daniel Mark, Troop B, 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 5th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, share breakfast with an Al Schweb resident recently.







Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

### Iraqi Word of the Day

de-bab-beh

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# ROC Soldiers Ensure Flow of Information Runs Smoothly

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are open, the ROC is standing by. "It is just one big team effort," Sample said.

The ROC also passes the information down to the brigade level, "We put the information out to the brigades, what convoys come through their areas," Sample said. This lets the brigades know exactly what is going on in their zones.

The ROC uses radios and computers to track the convoys. "Technology has really allowed instantaneous information," Sample said. The computers offer real time details on convoys.

One of the most interesting aspects of the job, Sample said, is to be able to talk to a pilot in or helicopter. plane Sometimes when the pilot cannot reach a unit on the ground, the ROC can make that happen.

"We're able to be that relay to the unit on the ground for that aircraft," he said.

particular event One Sample remembers involved a Marine convov heading

through the 1st Cav. area of operations. The ROC received a call over the radio by a convoy commander; they had been hit and needed assistance.

"We were able to talk to her and get the information, making sure the medevac was going to the right place, that we shut down other routes," Sample said. "That was probably one of the most intense ones we had."

Sgt. Algin Bishop of Blue Mountain, Miss. enjoys working with the First Team. Bishop has been in the military more than 35 years, and is a veteran of both Vietnam and Operation Desert Storm.

"We're a very professional group," Bishop said. "We share ideas and play off one another."

Bishop doesn't believe his job his very stressful, though.

"The main stress is making sure the guys we're trying to take care of are taken care of," he said. "If you mess up one time, it can cost someone their life."

1st Lt. Marty Walton from Peaceful Valley, Miss. believes



By Spc. Michelle Newbold, 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs

Sgt. 1st Class Jimmy Morris of the rear operations cell (ROC), 1st Cavalry Division, monitors the radio for any convoys that may need assistance. The ROC will call for medical assistance, a quick reaction force or air support, if necessary.

his job is worthwhile. "It is rewarding to know you were able to help someone and have them come out of it with out any injury or any damage to equipment," he said.

Sample is proud of his troops and the work that they do everyday. "All of these guys are professionals," he said. "They are the epitome of citizen Soldier."

## Biker Rally Set for Saturday

CAMP BLACK JACK- If you live to ride and ride to live, join the Camp Black Jack Brotherhood of Bikers for

During the rally, there

will be a barbeque; drinks,

their Biker Rally 6 p.m. July 24.

The rally will take place at the Mayor Cell Corral and the Pallet Bar and Grill on Camp Black Jack.

music and more than \$1,000 of prizes will be raffled off.

One raffle ticket costs \$5

and includes a free Harley tshirt. Additional tickets cost \$2 a piece.

All proceeds will go to the First Cavalry Division Association.

Past, present and future bikers are welcome to attend. share stories, pictures, and win some prizes.

#### Dignity, Respect Key to Good Relations

#### Continued from Page 2

What the Soldier at the checkpoint did not know was that our Iraqi friend is a principle in one of the wealthiest and most influential business families, not only in Baghdad, but also in Iraq. He is a supporter of the new Iraqi government and coalition forces. In fact, because of that family's support for the coalition effort and new government, anti-Iraqi forces assassinated his brother's wife. Ever since then, all the members of his family travel with the protection of a personal security team.

Although Mohammed was visibly upset about the way he had been mistreated by an American Soldier, he accepted an apology and still indicated he and his family wanted to help us

bring peace and prosperity to Iraq. Another man, less sympathetic to our cause, could have decided he wanted to extract revenge because of the insult to his honor.

As our commanding general has said many times, "Treating the Iraqi people with dignity and respect is a force protection issue!" If we don't treat people with dignity and respect, then we run the risk of creating more ene-

In our deadly struggles with anti-Iraqi forces, where we often can't tell friend from foe until bombs blow and bullets fly, the last thing we need are more enemies. Most of the Iraqis we meet everyday are not our enemieslet's not treat them that way.

## Today in History July 22

▶ From historychannel.com

1864 Confederate General John Bell Hood continues to try to drive General William T. Sherman from the outskirts of Atlanta when he attacks the Yankees on Bald Hill. The attack failed, and Sherman tightened his hold on Atlanta.

1934 Outside Chicago's
Biograph Theatre, notorious
criminal John DillingerAmerica's "Public Enemy No.
1"--is killed in a hail of bullets
fired by federal agents. In a
fiery bank-robbing career
that lasted just over a year,
Dillinger and his associates
robbed 11 banks for more
than \$300,000, broke jail
and narrowly escaped capture multiple times, and
killed seven police officers
and three federal agents.

1940 On this day in 1940, radio program Suspense debuts on CBS. Alfred Hitchcock directed the first episode of this dramatic anthology. The show's 30-minute (and later, 60-minute) dramas drew top Hollywood stars, directors, and writers. The show won many prizes, including the prestigious Peabody Award in 1947.

#### Today in Cav History July 22



1950 - The 1st Cavalry Division assumes responsibility for blocking the enemy along the main Taejon-Taegu corridor.

1951 - 1st Cavalry Division Band awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period July 22, 1950-January 22, 1951.

# **Historic Bridge Fades Into History**

By Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

DeVALLS BLUFF, Ark.-Melvia Mullins stood Tuesday morning on a dock along the White River, looking at what remained of an 80-year-old bridge.

"I said, 'Oh, God, that looks so sad.' "

Demolition crews Tuesday blew up part of the historic span that holds a place in the hearts of many Prairie County residents. It was an artery between DeValls Bluff and Biscoe, a focal point for local people and a place where youngsters demonstrated their bravery by diving from it into the water.

On Tuesday, residents staked out spots along the new U.S. 70 bridge and on boats in the river to see demolition crews explode the vertical-lift, center section of the bridge, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Amid birds chirping, the blast generated a cloud of smoke and dust.

Then came the boom.

The structure plunged into the river.

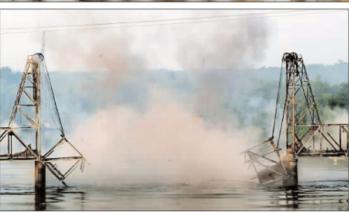
The bridge opened in 1924 and was the oldest and last vertical-lift span used for highway traffic in Arkansas, according to Bob Scoggin, historical resources coordinator for the state Highway and Transportation Department. It was one of 116 historical bridges in the state.

Crews began disassembling it in May after the opening of a \$17 million bridge that rises 52 feet above the river and stretches 350 feet across.

The new bridge has shoulders and wider lanes. The old







Photos by Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Explosives detonate (top photo) in the center section of the old U.S. 70 bridge across the White River near DeValls Bluff, Ark., early Tuesday, sending the section into the river (middle and bottom photos). Its pieces will be sold for scrap.

bridge was so narrow that trucks had to stop to allow other vehicles to pass, creating headaches when officials diverted traffic from Interstate

Detonating the bridge was the least-expensive and easiest way to remove it, said Randy Ort, a spokesman for the department.

After the debris falls into the water, crews will use a crane on a barge to put it on an embankment and later haul it away.

# Sports/Leisure

## Some WNBA Players Forced to Choose Teams

By USA Today

The WNBA is suspending its season in August so players may participate in the Athens Olympics.

For the majority of international basketball federations, however, that wasn't enough, and players had to choose: play in the WNBA in 2004 or play in Athens.

Most chose the Olympics. Only three international WNBA players — Australians Lauren Jackson (Seattle Storm) and Penny Taylor (Phoenix Mercury) and Russian Elena Baranova (New York Liberty) — are expected to also participate in the Olympics.

Kamila Vodichkova, 31, told the Czech Republic she could do both. When the national federation said thanks but no thanks, she chose the WNBA. Vodichkova, averaging 8.6 points and 4.8 rebounds for Seattle, will watch the Games on TV

"It was a smart decision for me, stupid decision for them," says the 6-4, 185-pound Vodichkova, who played on the Czech Republic 1992 Olympic team in Barcelona. "They made the decision in April: either the WNBA or the Olympics. For me, it's not a question. I'm going to Seattle whatever you say.

"I played Olympics in Barcelona, and it was cool. It was first Olympics for Dream Team. I had that experience. I was sad, but now I'm over it."

Anne Donovan, coach of the Storm and an assistant on the U.S. Olympic team, hasn't quite gotten over it.

U.S. and Seattle point guard Sue Bird says the Czech Republic team, who many say will be medal contenders, will miss her Storm teammate.

"This isn't like (the) 12th man off the bench. This is a starter they need," Bird says.

Though Donovan, Bird and Jackson will participate in the Olympics, Bird says there isn't much talk about the Games in the locker room and that Vodichkova has handled it well.

Jackson, a 6-5 center and the WNBA 2003 league MVP, says Australia initially issued a similar ultimatum.



wnba.con

Kamila Vodichkova chose to play for the Seattle Storm rather than participate in this summer's Olympic games in Athens for her native Czech Republic.

"There was a little bit of controversy this year because the coach actually did tell us we couldn't come back to America," Jackson says. "They ended up coming around for me and Penny, but they didn't want anybody else coming back over here."

As the Games draw nearer, it becomes more difficult for Vodichkova.

## MLB MLB



scores as of July 21 8 p.m. PDT

AMERICAN LEAGUE Minnesota 12 Tampa Bay 2

Baltimore 10 Boston 5

Chicago 14 Cleveland o

Detroit 4 Kansas City 2

New York 10 Toronto 3

Texas 3 Anaheim 2

Oakland @ Seattle

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE Chicago 5

Chicago 5 Cincinnati 4

Pittsburgh 4 Atlanta 3

Philadelphia 2 Florida 1

New York 5 Montreal 4

St. Louis 1 Milwaukee 0

Houston @ Arizona

San Diego @ San Francisco

Colorado @ Los Angeles



